

**DAUFUSKIE ISLAND FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' SPECIAL MEETING
December 17, 2012**

PRESENT:	CHUCK HENRY TOM DICKINSON TOM BEAVOR PAT BEICHLER	CHAIRMAN VICE CHAIRMAN COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER
ABSENT:	MIKE BRYANT GEOF JENKINS	COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER
OTHERS:	EDWARD BOYS DONALD HUBBARD GINNY TEERLINK	CHIEF CAPTAIN ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
GUESTS:	ROBERTS VAUX TABOR VAUX	ATTORNEY, VAUX & MARSCHER ATTORNEY, VAUX & MARSCHER

Potential Change in DIFD Charter: The meeting began at 11:40 AM. There was discussion about Beaufort County's proposed new charter for the DIFD, about recommending changes to some language for clarification, about further exploration of the DIFD's status as a Special Purpose Tax District.

The meeting concluded at 1:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Ginny Teerlink on December 18, 2012.

NOTES FROM THE DECEMBER 17, 2012 COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Potential Change in DIFD Charter: Henry opened the meeting at 11:40 AM stating that the meeting's purpose was to request legal guidance from Attorney Roberts Vaux with regard to Beaufort County's draft of a new DIFD charter which included an expansion of responsibility to include EMS/medical services, eliminating any tax levy to fund the DIFD and limiting the DIFD's entitlement to tax revenues being collected, changing jurisdiction of the DIFD firefighters from employees of the DIFD to employees of Beaufort County, authorizing the County Administrator with the role of hiring and firing the Fire Chief and the DIFD's concern that Beaufort County is supplementing our finances by covering any shortfall even though the shortfall is a result of the County's insufficient millage increase.

Vaux stated that the County Fire Districts are operating under different sets of laws based on how they were formed and who approved and that the County is seeking to combine them. Vaux stated that the DIFD is lawful under the Beaufort County Council but not lawful under the state charter.

Vaux suggested that the DIFD hold a special commissioners' meeting before Christmas to review the proposed charter and change the language so that the Fire Chief is hired in conjunction with the County Administrator, that the Fire Chief's performance review be the responsibility of the commissioners rather than the County Administrator, to request that that Beaufort County take off the balance sheet the \$84,913 paid out by the County for the DIFD's shortfall, that the County clarify/rectify/resolve the DIFD's status as a Special Purpose District and pay the costs for this resolution

Henry stated that the commissioners would have a meeting on these topics later in the week. Roberts stated that he would provide a proposal to the e-mail addresses of Boys and the commissioners by Tuesday, December 18, 2012 incorporating his suggested items for a commissioner vote. Boys stated that the proposed new charter did not mention the DIFD's obligation to provide fire prevention and inspection practices to receive 1% funding. Roberts agreed to add this to the proposal he would send.

The meeting concluded at 1:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Ginny Teerlink on December 18, 2012.